

the DORDT DIAMOND

Volume XVIII No. 1

Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa

September 11, 1975

Enrollment second highest ever

By Adri Verhoef



Efficiency at registration.

Enrollment figures for 1975-76 are only slightly down from last year, exceeding earlier predictions. The latest statistics, as released by Dr. Ribbens, stand at 976, 530 women and 446 men.

According to Rev. Hulst, "the number of returning students is significant." Hulst was "pleased" with the high percentage of students that came back to Dordt to finish their education and said it was a "good indicator."

Last year's record enrollment was really an exception, and compared with the general trend over the years, the number of 976 stands for "good solid growth," Hulst comment-

ed.

About 15% of the students hail from seven Canadian provinces (150), the bulk coming from Alberta (59), B.C. (51), and Ontario (37). This means an increase of 4 over last year.

Iowa (278) leads the 28 states represented on Dordt's campus. Other big numbers include Minnesota (94), Washington (64), California (61), and Michigan (55).

In addition, four foreign countries supplied eager learners: Vietnam (2), Honduras (1), Mexico (1), and Greece (1). This total variety should give opportunities for

cross-cultural interchange and provide incentives to widen horizons.

The number of freshmen totals 335 this year, representing a decrease of 70 students over last year's freshman record of 405. The latter figure favorably influenced sophomore numbers, however, which reached 290--an increase of 54.

With upperclassmen faithfully returning and having their number swelled by students who previously attended Dordt but dropped out or attended school elsewhere for a while, the 75-76 total falls only 11 short of last year's record.

Vander Stelt flies to South Africa conference

For the first time in South Africa, an international conference, dealing with Christian Higher Education, will be held in Potchefstroom from September 9-13. The theme of the conference is "Reformed Institutions of Higher Education as a Bulwark in the Kingdom of God--Today and in the Future."

John Vander Stelt, philosophy and theology professor flew to the conference to speak on "The past problems and the present possibilities of Calvinistic study facilities in North and South America."

Thirty-five Christian educational leaders from 17 countries will speak at the conference at Potchefstroom University. Vander Stelt is one of seven speakers from the Western Hemisphere.

University officials expect about 100 conferees from over 50 colleges, universities and seminaries.

It is the first conference of its kind in South Africa, since similar conferences, like the Reformed Ecumenical Synod held approximately fifteen years ago in Potchefstroom. The September conference, which will be attended by Reformed scholars from Christian universities, Christian institutions and organizations relating to higher education, will deal with broader themes pertaining to the Kingdom of God.

The main purpose of the conference is to bring together representatives of Christian Higher Education on a worldwide basis, as well as Reformed Christians from different institutions.

Hopefully, these representatives will get to know one another better; reflect on the task and calling of Christian science for the ren- ainder of

this century; work on a practical plan promoting worldwide Christian scholarship; and promote closer co-operation and co-ordination between related institutions to strengthen the work of all the small minority groups of Reformed Christians.

It is expected that the conference will be attended by about fifty foreign institutions, coming from at least seventeen countries, including young African states. Europe, the British Islands, the U.S.A., Canada, the Far East, Australia and Argentina.

Vander Stelt said that the South African government has asked the speakers to make a post-conference five day tour of the nation to observe what the government is doing about the Apartheid problem. Apartheid dictates separation between the country's whites and blacks.

"We will try to examine three concepts at the conference--the Christian scholar, Christian scholarship and the Christian institution of higher learning," stated Vander Stelt.



John Vander Stelt

"We will then ask what we can do to implement our findings."

"Hopefully we will be able to help Calvinistic education by setting up an international videotape and cassette library for colleges and universities that don't have suitable Christian lecturers," he said.

Vander Stelt added, "Out of this conference may also come possibilities of exchanging lecturers and students with foreign colleges and universities."

"I'm immensely intrigued by this opportunity to go to South Africa," Vander Stelt said. He studied for six and a half years at the Free University of Amsterdam and knows "the situation with our church (the Christian Reformed Church) in Holland very well, and in America and Canada a little bit, but I've never been able to in South Africa."

Vander Stelt explained that the Christian Reformed Church is strong in North America (compared to other countries), in the Netherlands and in South Africa. "So we've got an international triangle!"

After the two week stay in

South Africa, he plans to fly to Amsterdam for a few days. He said he will consult with Dr. G.C. "erkouwer of the Free University, under whose direction he is writing his doctoral thesis.

On his return to Sioux Center Vander Stelt will probably deliver his speeches to the public.

Gerard Van Groningen, former theology professor at Dordt, is also at the conference. He has written to E. L. Hebden Taylor, sociology professor, of his disappointment in the university's library. Books on display as representing the U.S.A. concerned him. Van Groningen writes, "There was no one book which represented a voice, be it a weak one, anti the secularism in the U.S.A."

As a result of Van Groningen's letter, Taylor has compiled a bibliography of books in the social sciences. This has been sent to the Potchefstroom University. Taylor further encourages the formation of a body of reformed scholars to coordinate the international availability of Christian books.



The bar-b-que: part of the student body's orientation to the school year's beginning.

Swap demand high on freshman texts

"The minute we were open the kids came in," said Brent Assink of the Future Business Executive Club, commenting on the Book Swap. The whole thing went "pretty well."

Brent said, "We got the books at the end of last year and stored them all summer." Now that the Book Swap is over, the only problem left is what to do with the old books people don't pick up. We'll probably sell them for give away prices, 25 cents or so, or give them to the missions."

Compared to last year, this year's sales were "okay." "We sold close to, if not more than last year. This is just a rough estimate; we haven't gone over all the checks yet," said Brent.

Most of the books were for freshman courses. Western Civilization books were hot items. "Many upperclassmen keep their books, and their courses have too many book changes," commented Brent.

If we challenge our tradition ...

by Ellen Vlieg and Becky Maatman

Dordt's a unique place. Very few colleges can boast that their students come from so many states (28), provinces (seven), and foreign countries (four besides Canada).

Overlooking surface differences, (How do you say "water," "root," "creek," "almond," "pecan," and "either"?) meeting students from different geographic locations definitely has advantages. Just by talking to others one can discover that there really is a queen; that there are towns with populations of six; that some never experience snow or know what de-humidifiers are. The differences are endless, but perhaps the biggest and most important are the varied life-styles and backgrounds left behind before coming to Dordt.

Or did we leave them behind? Is it possible for all--whatever nationality and faith--to be compressed and freeze-dried by the great Dordt machine into a "run-of-the-mill" Dordt thing?

We have no right to say that "our" Christian life-style is right and "theirs" is wrong. But this is where the problems develop.

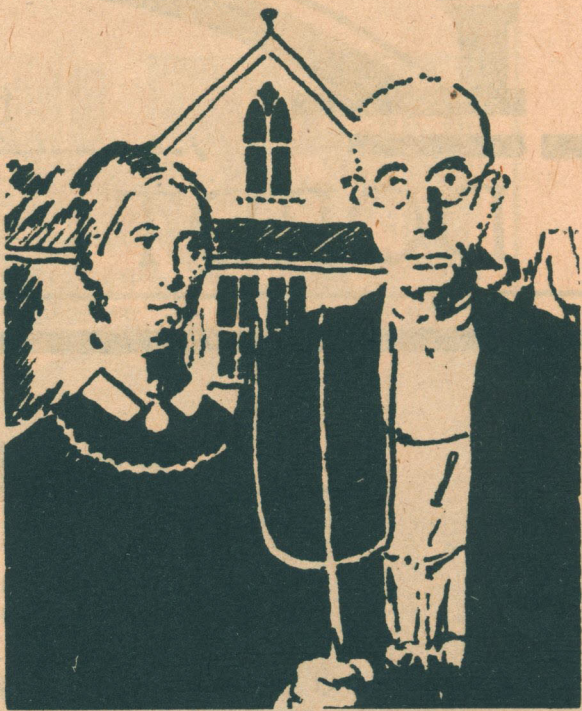
What is a Christian life-style? Are there law tablets which a student obeys and thereby becomes a Christian student? Is life-style measured by how we spend our recreational time? By the things we eat and drink?

In his convocation address, Rev. Haan suggested that a true, concrete study of Christian life-styles at Dordt is needed now. By this, Dordt's present mode of life is not rejected or condemned, but re-examined.

All of us have a responsibility in this. Some must lead (without assuming to hold the only answers), giving suggestions and guidelines for life-style on this campus. The Diamond plans to give some direction in this. Others have the responsibility to communicate to the Diamond, provide feedback on the articles and editorials. Is there agreement or disagreement with the expressed views? The Diamond can never learn without feedback.

By working together at Dordt we can make changes. We have to evaluate the future of this college. We have to examine the problems--housing, language, dancing, student-professor relationships, friendships--which the Christian scholar, artist, businessman, historian, or scientist encounters.

This year could be a challenging one. It doesn't have to be one filled with a mud-slinging controversy or a deathly quiet apathy. But it can be challenging if we challenge our traditions. By seeing what Dordt is, we can more fully realize what its place is in the world.



PICKING UP THE PIECES

by Ruth Harthoorn

The Federal government operates much like Metrobus, the Washington, D. C. bus service, I discovered while working in Washington this summer. While waiting at a bus stop, I would often criticize Metrobus for being slow, expensive (40¢) and inefficient. Viewed from the outside, government often seems to share these faults.

Once I stepped onto the right bus, I soon gained a new perspective. I hoped that the bus wouldn't have to pick up any more passengers, allowing me to get home sooner. When new passengers fumbled with the right change or stalled by enquiring about bus routes, I inwardly rebelled. For all practical purposes, I became a part of the bus, sharing an interest with other passengers. I became suspicious towards outsiders--the very people the bus was authorized to serve.

Such is often the case in government. Newcoming staff soon become enamored by their particular governmental agency or department and develop a self-interest. Pay hikes, expense accounts and image-building become chief goals, rather than performing a task to the glory of God and the benefit of the people. Personal success and job promotion often become the esprit de corps behind government service.

Before a person becomes too attached to a city bus he should get off, letting another passenger take his seat. One way for governmental representatives to do this is by voluntarily limiting their terms. Rep. Larry Pressler, R-S.D., a freshman congressman, has agreed to limit himself to 8 years. Feeling that the job of a congressman takes only a generalist, Pressler opposes the old style politician whose main goal from year to year is self-perpetuation.

Perhaps more government officials should voluntarily step down from the government bus before the grip of self-interest consumes them.

Was the retreat profitable?

Dear editor:

In my opinion the retreat was profitable in a lot of ways to many students. But I feel that the lectures which were given should not have been part of the retreat. A retreat should be a time in which each person can rest from his normal activities. It should be a time of interaction and fellowship with other kids but most of all it should be a time of growing closer to God. Although I feel it is important for each student to examine his attitudes toward the state especially since it is the United States' bicentennial, such a topic should be reserved for a more scholarly time and place. In its place there should be speeches on matters that would enrich each individual's personal life. Maybe the speeches that were presented were beneficial to some of the more intellectually advanced students but for many they were in general too "schoolish" and therefore uninteresting. This is evident by the number of kids who took part in the discussion after each lecture. So for next time, let's have less time devoted to cognitive matters and let's spend more time reflecting on our relationship to Christ and re-evaluating our values and attitudes in the light of the Word of God.

Agnes Van Haren

Reply:

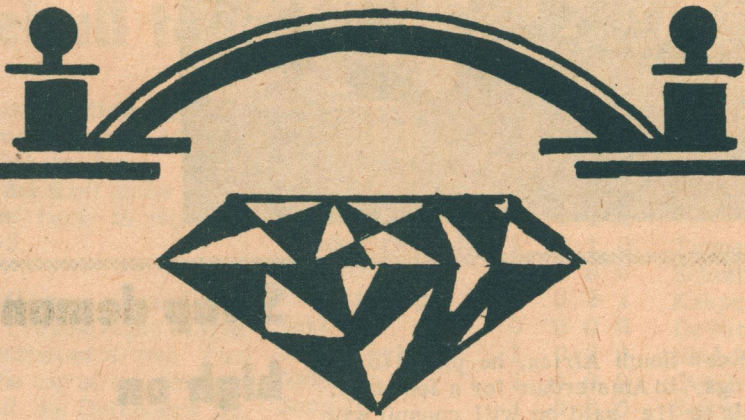
If we reflect only on our personal relationship to Christ, we too easily forget what a communal Christian emphasis--on politics, for example--can mean. It's important for all of us to realize how politics affect us--whether we're from the U.S. or Canada. The retreat committee thought that the bicentennial celebration would become more meaningful if students could understand their responsibility as citizens and their responsibility in politics.

It's unfortunate that you thought the discussions were too intellectual and "schoolish" but such topics won't seem interesting unless you examine them.

--the editors

The new flag and masthead, sketched by Eugene Vanden Bosch, portray an artistic style and lettering used in 1776.

The Diamond publishes all signed "Letters to the editor" concisely expressing opinion on Dordt-related issues. Letters longer than 200 words will be edited.



Published bimonthly by the students of Dordt College. The opinions reflected are the responsibility of the authors. Subscriptions are available at \$2. per academic year. Address all correspondence to the Diamond, Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa 51250.

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Retreat offers entertainment and discussion

On the September 5 and 6 weekend students and faculty participated in the annual college retreat at Lake Okoboji. Shortly after arriving, all three volleyball courts were in use. Before supper, Rev. J.B. Hulst conducted opening devotions. After supper, entertainment was presented in the form of songs, skits, and readings. Rev. Wayne Kobes was the first speaker on the theme of "You and Your Nation." "Can a Christian become involved at all, especially when we find government corrupt and unmanageable and even, it would seem, fighting against the establishment of God's Kingdom?" Kobes asked concerning a citizen's involvement in politics. Saying that the Bible recognizes the need of authority, he said, "... authority is to be exercised for the welfare of the governed according to the law of God." Kobes posed the question of having a godless ruler who wouldn't be a servant of God. Kobes answered, "We don't first of all obey governmental authorities because they are devout, but because of their office. ... Honor is given to the office and not to the person. It is also the duty of Christians to call the state to conformity to God's Word." Explaining that the Christian's task is a difficult one,

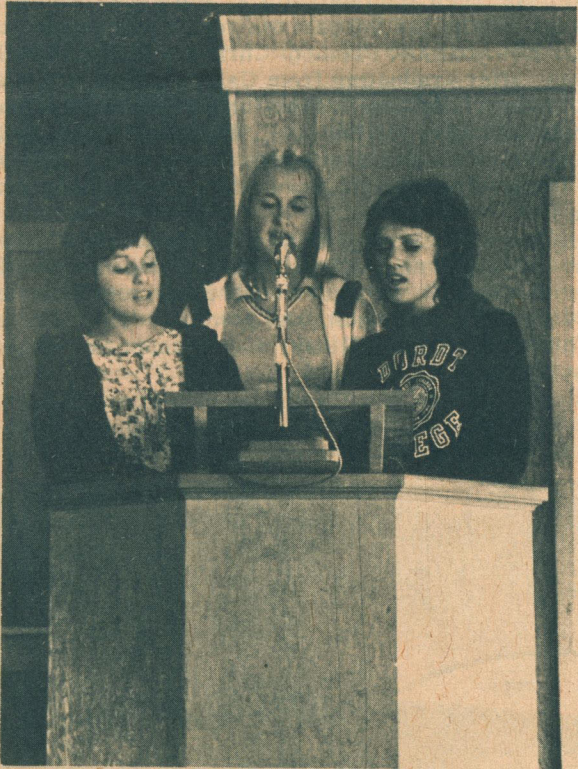
Kobes finished, saying, "It's our prayer that in the study and discussions of this year we at Dordt may come to a fuller understanding and be of more service to our King Jesus Christ." In the evening chapel service, ASAPH, a singing group of seven, performed. During the pizza party, entertainment included songs by the Moosylvania Farquet, a Steve Vreeman and Nancy Goeman banana eating contest, Jim Geertsma's blanket game, and a demonstration by the national spitting champion. John and Randy Smothers emceed this circus. After an enthusiastic hymn singing around a bonfire, everyone returned to their cabins for devotions. Following that retreaters attempted to sleep in the chilling and uninsulated accommodations. At 6:30, Saturday morning, someone had the audacity to ring the bell for breakfast. After this first meal of the day, retreaters learned the "Junior Birdman" song and had an "in dining hall" scavenger hunt. The morning chapel and following discussion were led by Arnold Koekkoek. His discussion focussed on the four basic historical positions of the church/state relationships and how those positions have been practiced. Koekkoek explained that these positions--

the Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Anabaptist, and Calvinist-- have become disjointed to make some form of civic religion possible. He said that civic religion occurs when the state becomes a substitution for the church; the state becomes religion. Also, in civic religion Koekkoek said, the church permits the state to decide matters and it agrees, without questioning, to these decisions. Lunchtime entertainment was hosted by Dan Dykstra and included such things as the true story of Christopher Columbus and the blushing of Rev. J.B. Hulst. That afternoon Hugh Cook led the chapel and discussion. In Cook's discussion on Christian patriotism, he said that there have been two types of patriotism-- revolutionary and "hard-hat." Cook said, "... many Christians failed to reject both these options, aligning themselves instead with the hyper-patriotism ("hard-hat") position, and by the worst act of historical distortion turned America's founding fathers of the eighteenth century into Christian saints instead of the deistic, militant anti-Christians that they were." He said that patriotism involves a love of justice but the state does not see its purpose as the administration of justice for all. In a bond of trust (troth), Cook said, the state acts according to its purpose and the citizens must act responsibly or else tyranny results. He added that the motto, "My country, right or wrong" has no place within a Christian framework; true patriotism uses the God-ordained political structures when corrections are needed. Cook finished by saying that the American CIA has no right at all to interfere with a foreign country's decision to become socialist or those citizens' rights to love their country, "however they define it." After some more volleyball and softball, and an early outdoor supper, many took advantage of the one and a half hour boatride on the Empress. James De Jong led the closing devotions before the watermelon party. "This retreat served as a wonderful opportunity for our students to get to know one another," commented Rev. Hulst. "If the spirit at the retreat is any indication, the coming year at Dordt should be an excellent one."



Doug Eckart experiences the joys of youth

photo by John Van Milligan



Kathy DeJong, Julie Leep, and Libby Hulst.

photo by Steve Lyon



A highlight: a ride on the Empress.

photo by Steve Lyon



photo by Steve Lyon

You say East Hall girls won the tug-o-war?

Information Forum

by Doug Eckardt,

Wednesday, September 3, 1975 was the date. The SUB Conference Room was the place. What happened? Student Forum had its first meeting in an effort to get organized for the year. After opening devotions by President Doug Eckardt, the first matter of business was to choose a Secretary. Janet Damon was elected. The major matter of business for the Forum, (once the committee structure was explained by the President), was the new procedure of recommendation established by the administration. According to this procedure any new proposal originating in Forum will have to go to the Student Life Senate before being sent on to a committee. The Forum felt that this took away some of its rights to directly communicate to the committee and therefore it decided to appeal this new procedure to the Student Life Senate itself particularly in light of the Student Association By-Laws. Before adjourning, a committee was formed to conduct freshman elections, and September 16 was set as the date for those elections. Forum members also gave their respective class presidents a list of committees on which they would like to serve and gave suggestions for students-at-large to serve on the different committees. Freshmen should remember to watch announcements concerning their elections.

Five faculty and administration members added

by Tammy Van Emst

Dordt College welcomes five new members to its faculty and administration.

Richard Buckham is the new addition to the psychology department, and teaches Social Psychology, Physiological Psychology, and History and Systems of Psychology. Originally from Danville, Illinois, he and his wife Barbara have lived in Turlock, California since 1972. Buckham received his B.A. from Greenville College, Greenville, Illinois, in 1968, and attended L'Abri Fellowship in Switzerland upon receiving a European discharge from the Army in 1971. He has completed additional graduate work at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, and is presently working on his Ph.D. in psychology through the University of Nevada.

As Instructor of Psychology at Dordt, Buckham is attempting to work out a distinctively Christian perspective of psychology in all his courses. He subscribes to the Dooyeweerdian philosophy of the intellectual, and sees the phenomenological approach as the one most in harmony with the biblical view of man; its concept of the "whole man" as opposed to dualism, and its conception of man's personality as deeper than a simple response to stimuli.

Buckham chose to teach at Dordt because he felt that here he would receive support in developing his philosophy, and also the freedom to develop that philosophy "without administrative opposition."

Evert Van Der Heide is the new Instructor of Economics. He and his wife, Linda, were raised in Goshen, New York. In 1973, he graduated from Calvin College, received his M.A. degree from Wayne State University, where he also held a graduate assistantship.

Van Der Heide is particularly interested in the relationship of social problems to economic issues, such as that of poverty to public finance, and discrimination to labor economics. He commented, "It intrigued me to see the two join." He chose to teach at Dordt because he felt the need to bring economics, "the theory side of business," into the realm of Christian education. He feels that students too often see economics as "too theory-oriented." As he put it, "It takes good looking into before you realize that it (economics) does have benefits. It (economics) is more of a practical science than we have given it credit for."

Tim Schiebout, a 1975 Dordt graduate and native Northwest Iowan, teaches several physical education activities, including adaptive PE. In addition, he is cross country and track coach, as well as intramural program assistant. Schiebout plans to start work on his masters' degree next summer, either at Montana State University, or the University of Michigan.

He chose to teach at Dordt because he has become attached to its philosophy of physical education—"developing the whole individual." He feels that the strong character developed under this philosophy continues after college, and throughout the individual's life. Schiebout cites coaching as "probably the most rewarding experience a person can ever have," and his enthusiasm for it is constantly growing.

Two administrative positions have also been filled at Dordt this year. Verlyn De Wit is the new Development Representative. A graduate of Western Christian High in Hull, he re-



Richard Buckham

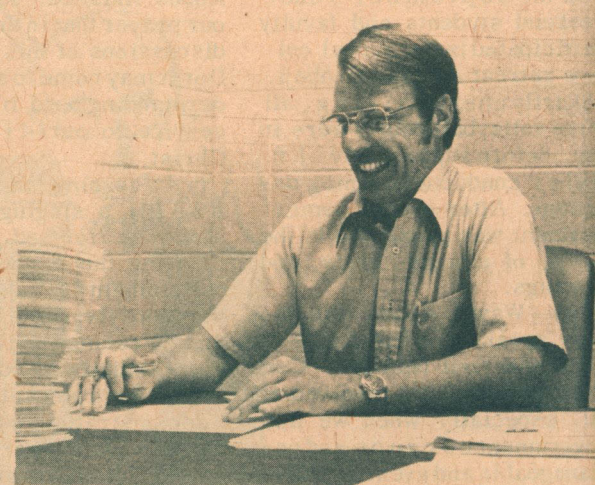


Evert Van Der Heide



Verlyn De Wit

photos by John Van Milligan



John Verwolf

ceived his A.B. degree in business education from Dordt in 1973, after which he taught for two years at Central Minnesota Christian School in Prinsburg.

De Wit's work deals primarily with the Dordt endowment fund: financial resources which the college can call upon in case of emergency. To accomplish this, he works with the Special Subscribers' Organization, and is responsible for the Deferred Giving Program. Concerning this program, De Wit stated, "The biggest part of my job is informing our constituents of the possibilities in deferred giving, because not only is the program so tremendously important to the college, but also because the advantages are so important to the donors." He went on to explain that only about 5% of the constituency even knows that this program exists. In De Wit's words, "The first step is to tell them that the program exists."

John Verwolf has accepted the new position of Program and Placement Director. His job is four-fold: co-ordinating and supervising academic advising on campus; providing career guidance and counseling through the career information center, career and interest testing and interpretation, and aiding in program planning; retention counseling; and the co-ordination and supervision of placement services.

Verwolf has been administrator at Watson Groen Christian High School in Seattle for the past ten years. He taught general science for five years at Fremont Christian Junior High School in Michigan, after graduating from Calvin in 1958 with an A.B. degree in biology. He then worked for two years as a pharmaceutical representative for the A. H. Robins Company in Dearborn, and received his masters degree in secondary administration, with a counseling and guidance minor, from Seattle Pacific College in 1972.

Regarding his work in programming and placement, Verwolf feels that the placement office "should be more versatile and available to students." He enjoys counseling, and wants to help students know what they want, and how to get it. As Verwolf put it, "This office is open all day, and students are encouraged to stop by."

New maintenance building near completion

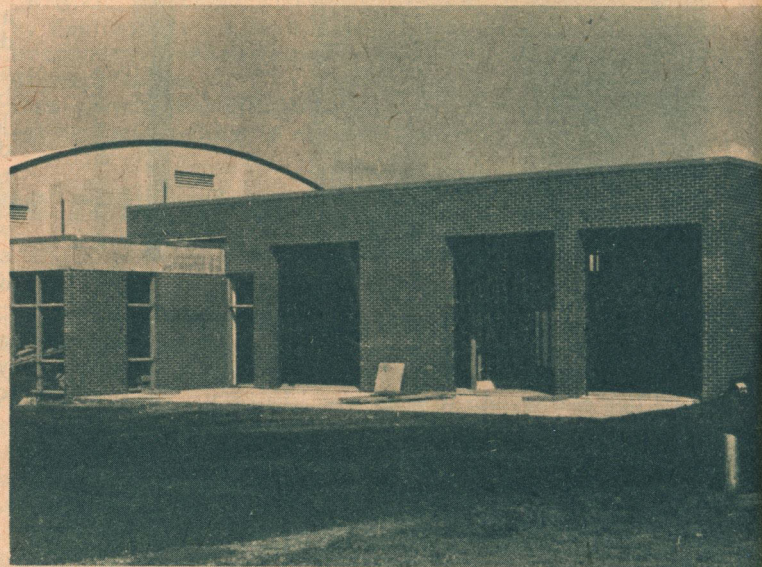
by John Ensing

I guess one of the first things that you notice when you return to Sioux Center and Dordt College are the things that have changed since you left in May. There are now leaves on the trees, new stores in town, and others with renovations. After first seeing that the college is still there, you notice that there are also changes on campus. The dorms are quiet and rather empty (at first), (and noticeably cleaner). The grass is a lot greener than you dared hope, and the campus is covered with plants and flowers of all kinds.

One of the biggest and most necessary changes is the construction of a new maintenance building attached to the east side of the gym. Recently, it was getting rather crowded in the small combined storage-maintenance room under the gym of the old classroom building. Whenever one looked in there, it gave the "something sure has to be done" impression. A small makeshift office was in one corner, and tools were stored along the walls. Tractors were stored outside during the entire winter with only a block heater to protect them from the weather.

The new, nearly completed maintenance building measures approximately 50 ft. x 60 ft. and will be used for housing the tractors and snow plows. It contains a drain pit so that college

At last,
a winter home
for bicycles!



"Old" and "new"
classroom buildings
-- joined by
more than
a hallway

photos by
Albert Groenewold

vehicles--buses and trucks--can be washed. Plumbing tools and materials, as well as welding equipment, will be added so that more maintenance can occur on campus. A large office is also part of this new building and will be used by Lou Kuiper, head of the maintenance department. During the winter months, students can store their bicycles in the new addition. The old maintenance building will be used primarily for storage.

Another addition on campus was made by simply adding a roof over the open space that existed between the old and new classroom buildings. According to Bernard De Wit, college business manager, this was quite an economical way to add needed space. It will be used for several purposes. The media center and public relations will use it as an assembly room for catalogs, publications (such as Pro Rege), and other college material. Mail will also be sorted out here before going to various parts of the college. Finally, this new addition also contains the office of R. J. Dykstra, general administrative assistant.

One other campus repair is the sealing of the parking lots, which had not been done before. Rain and snow had cracked the asphalt pavement.

Wayne Brouwer joins Summer Training Session

by Dorann Williams

"People searching for identity in the midst of a cruel world," is what Wayne Brouwer, a Dordt senior, found when he went on the Summer Training Session to Mexico this past summer. He also gained new insights into the missions that work with these people.

Summer Training Session (STS) is a 10-week course offered, organized, and sponsored by the Reformed Bible College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Wayne called it "a very, very good introduction to missions." He joined a group of 44 other people who went to study missions in Mexico. Having widely divergent backgrounds and personalities, they came from the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The people themselves consisted of "married couples, single people, college and pre-seminary students, nurses, parents, and even a tire retreader. All down together, all living together in Christian Fellowship," Wayne commented. These people compacted 10 weeks worth of clothes, a sleeping bag, and an emergency survival kit into the 40 lbs. luggage limit, then met at the Wycliffe Institute of Linguistics in Mexico City to begin the session.

This Institute "records all the different dialects of Spain, translates the Bible into those dialects, and then distributes the translated Bibles back to the people," Wayne explained. At the Institute, the recruits had a few days for general and mission orientation.

Next, they travelled to "The Oasis of Living Water" in Val Sesquillo which was once a resort but was converted into a Christian training center and the Wycliffe headquarters for missionary excursions into Mexico. Here, the STS volunteers learned the equivalent of one semester's Spanish in 3 weeks, averaging six hours of classroom Spanish per day. And each week there was a meal where the students were allowed to speak nothing but Spanish. "We lived and breathed Spanish," Wayne commented. They read mission and missionary biographies and studies along with Mexican history, culture and religion. In their religion class, the group learned that the Mexican is divided into 3 areas: 84% are Catholics (or claimed to be), 4% are Protestants, "and the other 12% are people in small towns and tribes that haven't been reached yet." When the Catholic church came into Mexico, "most people just Christianized their own pagan religions by adding the names of the saints to their gods. For example, now they pray to God the Father, Christ the Son, and Mother Moon," Wayne said. Therefore, when the STS volunteers brought the Gospel to these people and explained what Christianity really is, Wayne found that "peoples' lives really changed."

After Val Sesquillo, the students were flown into Yaxaquitela, the Wycliffe Jungle Camp, by the Missionary Aviation Fellowship. The Fellowship is a world-wide organization of pilots who started as "flying missionaries" after WW II. They fly the gospel to inaccessible villages, drop supplies to Wycliffe field groups and work as a religious transport service for Mexico. The only other way to get to Yaxaquitela was to hike for several days. Five Reformed Bible College vans were used to move some volunteers to their field assignments (Wayne thinks he travelled about 15,000 miles this summer, driving 5,000 of them himself).

At Yaxaquitela, the jungle camp was set up among the Tzeltal Indians, who lived under rough conditions. They stayed overnight at an Indian village with "cockroaches running in and out of our sleeping bags and clothes," went on several extended hikes, cooked their own meals and "ate our own mistakes," and learned they had to boil the river water for at least 10 minutes before drinking it, since the river was used for everything: bathing, canoeing, and washing clothes.

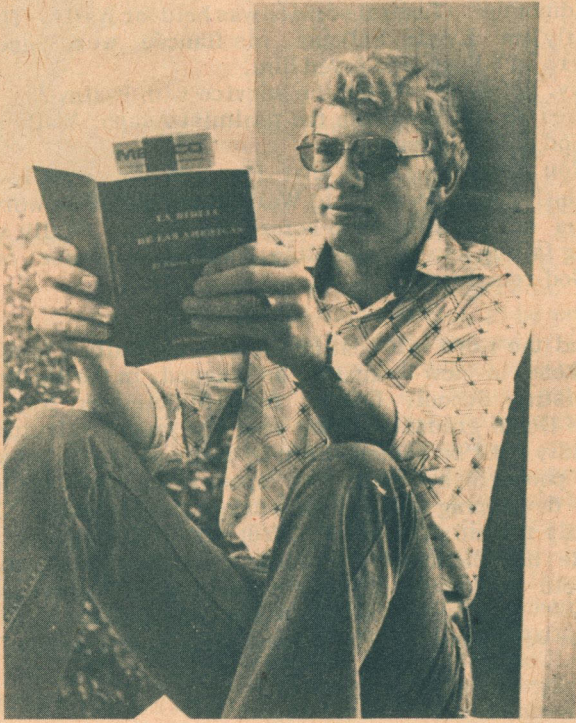
The STS group stayed in Yaxaquitela for 2 weeks, and then paired off. Given their field training assignments, they travelled around Mexico: to the poor, the rich, towns, youth camps and Indian villages.

Wayne's general field training assignment was the state of Quintanaroo in the Yucatan Peninsula. Wayne and his partner, Bill, had two immediate problems in their work. After 11 days in the field, Wayne had started to think in Spanish. They soon found that the common language of the

Yucatan Peninsula was Mayan, not Spanish. When their field training experience fell through, they were faced with their second major problem. They had nowhere to go and no Wycliffe field guide to tell them what to do. Through the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee, Wayne and Bill received two other field training assignments. As for the language difficulty, they "prayed, fasted, and persevered."

Their first field assignment was the village of San Diego which has a population of 120. The people farm for a living, after clearing away the jungle and breaking rocky land. Their crops are aided by the everyday rains.

Wayne and his partner conducted Bible school every day, handed out Gospels of John, and did house-to-house witnessing. While they were in San Diego, Wayne and Bill were invited to a birthday party at 3:00 in the morning. Wayne noticed that time was a pronounced difference between Mexico and the United States. One church service was to begin at 7:00 p.m.



Wayne Brouwer practising his Spanish after returning from summer in Mexico.

photo by John Van Milligan

The two were at the church by 6:55. People started coming at 8:00, the service started at 8:45, and the whole thing ended at 10:30 p.m. "That's Mexican time," Wayne stated. "Something starts when people get there they come when they feel like it."

Other differences were farming, housing, and food. The people that Wayne Brouwer observed on his field assignments farmed by hand with the same ancient methods their great-grandfathers used. The houses, built with much cruder material are composed of "woven sticks, thatched roofs, and dirt floors." However, the church was a whitewashed mud structure with blue wooden doors. Inside, vari-colored Mexican scriptures decorated the walls, and the pews and pulpit were hand-hewn wood.

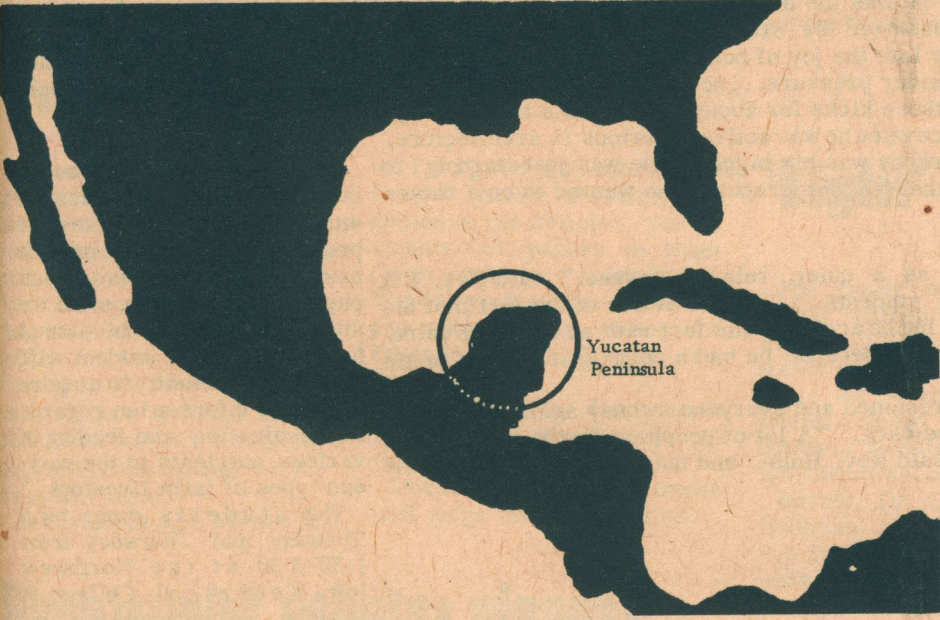
Wayne's second field assignment was in Pueblo Nueva at an "Ejido," which is a government owned collective farm. Although the land area is small, it is fertile. Yet, the people don't use the farm machinery sent by the government. Instead they farm by hand. The villagers attended the church and "sent their children to the Bible school, just for something to do." Wayne and his partner taught the Bible school, handed out Gospels, and witnessed. "There was no racial barrier, just alot of apathy." Wayne and Bill were in the Yucatan Peninsula for three weeks. They headed back to Mexico City for evaluations of the work and themselves, team reports, a final wrap-up, and tickets home.

Wayne left Mexico with several deep impressions. He experienced little prejudice in Mexico City or at his various field assignments. Mexican people are biased against large foreign corporations which come, grasp everything they can, and then leave. There is a "constant turmoil in the Mexican people's lives." Even though Mexico is a democratic country, the Mexicans want to act as individuals and do everything themselves, but they don't know how to do it; so they retreat into apathy and let the government protect them.

"You get the idea of missionaries being five steps closer to heaven than anyone else, but we found that they were people with day-to-day working problems." Some of these problems are getting along with other missionaries and making the best use of their time by setting specific goals to get tangible results.

Wayne and the other STS members also enjoyed the benefits of seeing "another side of creation," learning Spanish, meeting a different culture and people, and "starting to find themselves in intense Bible study, prayer, and meditation."

Wayne didn't like the impression he got from some of the STS members: that the Summer Training Session "is divorced from reality... a type of Christianity they couldn't live at home." He thinks that Christianity should be lived full time, and not cut up into certain 'religious' episodes.



Bookstore operation smooth under new management

by Evelyn Luymes

Late last spring the Dordt Campus Bookstore changed hands from the Nebraska Book Company to Dordt College. Marvin De Young was appointed as the new manager.

Needless to say, this past summer has been a new experience for De Young. Besides arranging the shelves, De Young had to order all the books. "Did you know," says De Young, "this means dealing with about one hundred different publishing companies?" He is sorry he couldn't get more used

books. This should come with more experience as well as ordering earlier. In answer to the problem of not ordering enough textbooks, De Young said "All I have to work with are the pre-registration lists... it is impossible to guess how many students will change their minds over the summer."

Referring to the bookstore during registration days, De Young commented, "It went well. We had no line-ups outside the door." Other years

students had to wait behind a locked door because the bookstore was too crowded. "With the booklist students were able to shop around before going into the bookstore" concluded De Young. He also mentioned the addition of another cash register.

The bookstore inventory has been enlarged. It now includes a good sized Art Department. Reeds for wood-wind instruments can be bought in the bookstore. Film can be taken to the bookstore to be process-

ed. De Young hopes that film, which the bookstore has always carried, will now move faster."

New ideas include the possibility of mailing packages through the bookstore. Under the heading, "quality paperbacks," De Young plans to include titles in all subject areas. He hopes professors will let him know which books are recommended in the different classes. He would also like to build up the Bible study guide section. This includes

Bible handbooks, different translations, study aids and devotional material.

De Young has increased bookstore hours. Monday through Thursday hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and again from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. It will be closed Fridays at 3:30 p.m. De Young is arranging for workstudy students to work during the afternoons and evenings. He concludes, "The bookstore is ours, we can do what we want."

Wally Ouwens dies following heart surgery

by Ellen Vlieg

After a long and quiet summer, the Dordt College campus is again filled with students, new and returning. But Wally Ouwens is missing.

On July 23, 1975, Wally Ouwens of Edmonton, Alberta was taken from this life to be with the Lord. He had lived for twenty-one years having congenital heart defects.

Wally first came to Dordt in January, 1972, as a freshman. Last fall he returned for his sixth semester but two serious heart seizures forced him to drop his studies. He went home to Edmonton in November.

Open-heart surgery was performed in January, 1975, to repair and strengthen Wally's heart. He remained weak, however, and major surgery was again required in late June, 1975.

On July 26, 1975, in the Third Christian Reformed Church of Edmonton, a funeral service was held for Wally. The Ouwens family and Lynda Falkena, his fiancée, were joined by many others who knew and loved him.

Rev. James Joosse led the service with Psalm 73, especially verses 25 and 26. With the psalmist Asaph, Wally had looked to God as his strength.

"You know that's all that I've got left -- the love of Jesus Christ!" Rev. Joosse said Wally repeated these words several times on the afternoon before his death. "Wally saw everything falling away, crumbling," said Rev. Joosse, but the love of God remained.

And the Lord will continue to be with Wally's family. Lynda Falkena is now teaching, as planned, in the North Edmonton Christian School. Lynda, from Middletown, New York, is a 1974 Dordt graduate. Last year she taught in Ireton, Iowa.

Wally will be remembered by many at Dordt, especially for his photography work. He spent many hours taking pictures and developing film for the student publications. The Ouwens family recently presented Dordt with Wally's camera.

"He had the knack for seeing a picture in a situation," said Arnold Koekkoek, history professor. "I guess that was his gift." Koekkoek recalls Wally as a student to whom things came very easily. "He worked when he felt like it."



"Golgotha" by Wally Ouwens was published in Cannon, Vol. IV, No. 3.



Wally Ouwens: photographer, actor, and student.

"I remember him as a very independent thinker," said Hugh Cook, English professor, who knew Wally as an English major in an American Literature course.

Mike Vanden Bosch, also in the English department, remembers Wally for his "to-the-point comments" and "very valid observations." Wally was a student who "appreciated literature."

"The general impression of Wally was that he was a goof-off," said Vanden Bosch, "but he had an inquiring mind ... and when he was there he was all there."

Wally was a student and actor. Before he left Dordt last fall, he worked hard at his lead role in Samuel Beckett's "Endgame."

"He threw himself into the role," drama director James Koldenhoven said. "He quit only when he really had to." In "Endgame," Koldenhoven recalls, "Wally felt very strongly about using abusive language. He would use it 'only when he could project the character ... as the character.'"

Koldenhoven remembers Wally as "outgoing, friendly ... almost carefree ... He was nonchalant about class attendance but it didn't upset me."

Syd Hielema also knew Wally as easy-going. A senior this year, Syd is one of those who lived with Wally at the Brotherhood. He will never forget how worried Wally was before he moved to the Brotherhood. Wally wanted a clean place but it turned out that "he was the messiest one of the house."

"Wally was bothered by students who got so caught up in studies that they lost the joy of being alive," Syd said. "Some things put him under pressure ... not studying though."

"He'd be on these kicks for about a month at a time," Syd remembered once when he was actively curious in architecture. "I guess photography was his biggest. He was just starting to get into experimental photography ... He wanted to be a photographer."

"I knew him as a quiet, relaxed student," said Rev. J.B. Hulst, dean of students. "He was aware of the fact that his heart was weak, but he accepted this fact with an amazing calm. He could do this, because he had a deep-seated trust in his Lord."

Classes have resumed and everyone is busy again, but Wally Ouwens won't be back. "A lot of people at Dordt are going to miss Wally," said Rev. Hulst, and many with him. "I'm one of those people."

Dordt, NW cooperate in agriculture course

by Stan Kruis

Dordt and Northwestern are cooperating to provide a course in Animal Science for eleven students from each college this semester. It is designed for pre-agriculture and pre-veterinary students.

The three credit hour course is "designed to introduce the student to general livestock production. It will provide basic background in animal physiology and stimulate the student's interest in animal husbandry. The student will be given opportunity to acquire practical information regarding evaluation and feeding of various nutrients to the various types of farm livestock."

The students meet each Tuesday and Thursday from 1:30-3:30 at the Northwest Iowa Technical College in Sheldon. Duane Wahlstrom and Dick Swanson are teaching the course. It involves 44 class hours and 10 lab hours through the semester.

We're just dealing with background material now," explained Dave Kobes, Dordt sophomore enrolled in the course. "I'm pretty interested in it."

The course, Agriculture 101, is Dordt's first agriculture course. "It's an experimental program for this semester," explained Dr. Ribbens. Tentative plans for something similar next semester will depend on how well this course works out.

Van Dyk returns with doctorate

Dr. John Van Dyk, philosophy professor at Dordt, has returned from a two year leave-of-absence for graduate work with a Ph. D. in medieval studies. His doctoral work in medieval studies was completed at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

Focusing on medieval philosophy in the program, Van Dyk also studied medieval Latin literature. "The idea of the program," he explained, "is not first of all to become a medieval philosopher, but a medievalist."

For his dissertation, Van

Dyk wrote "The Value of the Commentaries of Peter Lombard's The Sentences for the History of Medieval Philosophy."

He researched what medieval thinkers thought concerning time and eternity. The Sentences, a theological textbook and considered second in importance to the Bible in the Middle Ages, was discussed by hundreds during the years 1200-1600.

During his first year at Cornell, Van Dyk taught a beginning philosophy course at the university discussing "The ex-

istence of God" and "The problem of evil."

"This gave a good chance to debate such issues with the students and the faculty," he remarked. He found their discussions different from those at Dordt, which frequently bring up biblical views.

Van Dyk found many students at Cornell searching for truth. "I believe what they are searching for is what we are doing here at Dordt," he commented. He was sorry to see many Christian students surrender to secular thinking at Cornell. What Van Dyk finds very ex-

citing about his graduate work is that it hasn't ended. He plans to continue working with men at Cornell in medieval studies, "trying to translate important medieval texts and editing medieval manuscripts."

Van Dyk said he is "very optimistic about the fruitfulness of the project," and he hopes to gain "a much clearer understanding of what the Middle Ages are all about." He feels that gaining expertise in this type of scholarship is very important at Dordt and in the wider Christian academic community.

by Stan Kruis

Overseas students at Dordt

by Andy Kesteloo

Picture yourself living in the city of the Acropolis, in the country where Plato and Aristotle grew up and taught. Think of the Golden Age: democracy, the gods, the wars and the heroes. It has changed drastically since then, and now is a country where the state and the church state coexist to preserve the status quo.

The schools enforce a 7:00 pm curfew which, if broken, could result in a banishment. The pupils wear uniforms, cannot talk to a person of the opposite sex for prolonged periods, and cannot speak against the existing political system. There are many 'ears' and there is a long memory. One young teacher couldn't understand why she was unable to move up in the school system. She checked around and found the cause to be a derogatory remark the police had recorded from her father years ago. All this, no less, is from one of the freest high schools in Athens.

There are also many binding customs, such as male dominance, and, as a male, if you've had the misfortune of having sisters, you must wait till they are all married before you yourself may do so. Less than one month ago this was the culture and historical background of Theodora Stathopoulou (Dora in the familiar). She is now with us here at Dordt, enrolled as a freshman.

In Greece, Dora, although loving her country and her proud people, had wanted to come to the West. She applied and was accepted at Simon Fraser University, in Burnaby, B.C. Yet, being 20, her parent's signature was required on her passport. At this time, it was refused. In a short time, however, she met the Zinkands who were in Athens. John Zinkand, professor of classical languages, was working on the NIV translation.

She wants to fit in as one of "us," to experience much of the way of life she finds here. She previously took six years of Greek, some Latin, math and history in high school. Here she is enrolled as a classical studies major, which involves her in third year Greek, Latin and history.

Zinkand projects, "It's going to be good for us as a college and as a class (Greek) to have someone like her here... despite any theoretical differences in pronunciation of Greek." Dora plans to be at Dordt for four years, but envisions no immediate plans for the period after that.

We move now, a few thousand miles, to a place that still lives vividly in our memories: of a war-torn country, deep jungles, "Commies" and corrupt governments. This is Saigon, the recent home of Trung Nguyen, 19, and his cousin Tang Nhat Nguyen, 21, who are also with us at Dordt.

At the age of six months, Tang fled with his parents to Saigon during the Communist takeover of North Vietnam in 1954. Trung moved to Saigon and has lived there for the past three years. Both have previously studied in Saigon: Tang in Chemistry and Trung a year in Architecture.

Violence and death, however, began to fill more of their lives, as the war centered on Saigon. Tang remembers an experience with his brother during the evacuation of DaNang. "The ship couldn't get close to shore to the waiting crowd," he recalls, "the water was too wild. Some of the soldiers on shore tried to swim but they all drowned. Then the ship did get into shore but came too close, and when they tried to put the gate down it crushed many people. . . . Then when some soldiers saw they wouldn't get on, they threw grenades into the crowd." This is one of many such happenings.

Writing award offered

An award of \$160 will be given to the Dordt student who makes the most significant contribution to campus writing during the 75-76 school term. The prize will be awarded to the person whose writing gives evidence of sustained quality. Prose and poetry, fiction, essays, and articles may be submitted, but the writing must have been done during the 75-76 school term.

Any student who wishes his

writing to be considered should submit a folder with copies of his articles, poems, essays, or papers to Hugh Cook or Mike Vanden Bosch, English professors. Any writing published in either the Diamond or the Cannon may be submitted.

This award is being made possible through an anonymous friend of the college.

Dordt's English department will judge the manuscripts.

Bicentennial debates planned

An on campus contest is set for October 17 as part of the nationwide Bicentennial Youth Debates (BYD).

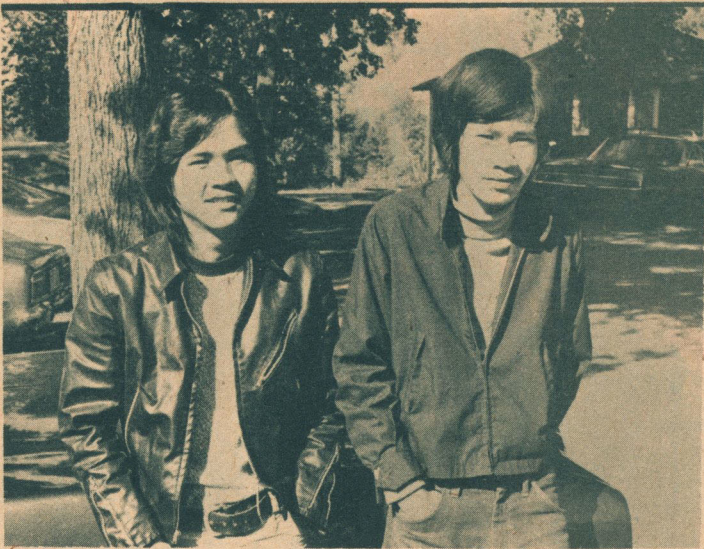
"If you know of any students interested in debating, just twist their arms behind their backs and send them my way. I think it's an excellent opportunity for Dordt students to give a Christian perspective to something like the bicentennial," commented Daryl Vander Kooi, Dordt's coordinator for the program.

There are to be three areas of competition: Lincoln-Douglas Debates (two persons op-

posing each other), Persuasive Speaking, and Extemporaneous Speaking. Topics for the BYD events will focus on American history and values. "The topics they've chosen have opened things up to examination on these issues," Vander Kooi remarked.

After intra-school tournaments are held there are to be district, sectional, regional and national tournaments. Another possibility of all this, "Vander Kooi explained, "is that these people (participants) can also speak at other public functions, such as town and county meetings."

photo by John Van Milligan



Tang and Trung Nguyeh, students at Dordt, and refugees from Viet Nam.

They left Saigon on April 29 in the last days, when they remember the first sounds of the Communist cannons and rockets in the suburbs. They have brothers in the navy which enabled them and their families, minus four brothers to escape. Of 20 million people, only 135,000 did make it out.

It took ten days to travel to the Philippines, on a ship which was so crowded there was room only to sit and stand and then no toilet facilities. "There was not enough food and water to go around, especially the children, who needed milk," remembers Trung, "for six people died on the way." From there they boarded an American ship headed for Guam, where a 50,000 person refugee camp awaited them. It took a month to process them, while long food lines and overcrowded army tents gave them a life. They then flew to Pennsylvania, where they were able to move around and to do what they enjoyed most: to study.

Teachers from all over the U S were there as volunteers to offer their services in the classes. One of those teachers was Mr. Rod Ledebouer, who teaches at Western Christian High in Hull. Understanding their predicament, he sponsored the two, and acquired scholarships from Dordt, where they are now enrolled as freshmen. They live with Mr. Ledebouer and commute to school.

"We are very happy to live in a peaceful country," they state, "but people don't recognize that they should be happy to live here. They don't know they are really happy. . . We would like to show them that they are really happy to live here in a peaceful country."

Their future here is rather uncertain, as they depend upon scholarships, having no other means of support. They would both like to continue in their specific fields of interest. They express a great deal of happiness upon being at Dordt, not wanting to return to South Vietnam for fear of the Communist rule. They stress importance, again, on their new freedom and the friendliness of their new home.

Ringerwole plans recital

by Tammy Van Ernst

Joan Ringerwole has returned to the Dordt music department after a three-year absence, replacing Rudy Zuiderveld as instructor in music. Her home is Hudsonville, Michigan, where she attended Unity Christian High. Upon receiving her A.B. degree from Calvin College and her M.M. degree from Eastman School of Music, she taught at Dordt for five years. She spent the past three years on a leave-of-absence from Dordt at the University of Iowa, where she completed all but the dissertation requirement for the Doctorate of Musical Arts degree in Performance and Pedagogy. During this time, she also held an assistantship.

At present, Ringerwole is preparing a recital to be presented Friday, September 19, at the First Christian Reformed Church of Sioux Center. The recital repertoire varies widely in time period and style, from the late sixteenth century to the twentieth, and includes music ranging from Bach, Pachelbel, and Buxtehude, including "Variations on a Dutch Folk-Song" by Samuel Scheidt, to the more contemporary works of Reger and Heiller. Regarding a favorite style in organ music, Ringerwole enjoys the French Romantics, but declared, "Nobody beats Bach!"



Ringerwole returns to music department.

'Light' completes singing tour

by Sue Bulthuis

The Dordt musical group "Light" toured this summer. From July 29 to August 22 they travelled from points as far east as Wisconsin and De Motte, Indiana to the western points of Washington and British Columbia, Canada.

Rachel De Groot, Elaine Huisman, Rhonda Huizenga, Sue Starkenburg, Linda Stravers, Randy Brouwer, Dan Jonker, Gerald Rutgers, Kevin Schonewill, and John Van Groningen performed 28 concerts and participated in numerous church services during the 28-day tour under the direction of Dale Grotenhuis.

An added incentive for the members was performing at Young Calvinist Convention in Bellingham, Washington at the close of the tour.

"Light" felt they were "very well-received." The small, out-of-the-way places left a special impression of warmth and friendliness with them. These included Conrad, Montana and Grangeville, Idaho, where there has been no Dordt student contact before.



'Light' under the direction of Dale Grotenhuis toured across country ending with concert here on campus.

Between the rush of concerts "Light" managed to squeeze in moments of enjoyment and sightseeing. They also found time to make a recording in Olympia, Washington which will be available at the Dordt Business Office at the end of

September. Grotenhuis, summing up the feelings of the entire group, said that they "were made very aware of the loyalty of the constituency and of the many friends that Dordt College has."



Soccer training is weeding out the unfit.

Soccer tryouts look promising

by Gordon Vlieg

Soccer tryouts have begun for another season at Dordt. Rumor has it that this year's team could be as good, if not better, than last year's. There was a good crop of freshmen when tryouts began. However, by the end of the week many of them had turned in to the showers for the last

time. One of those who packed it in said that he just could not "hack it." This year the team is in the hands of Lee Vanderaa. No cuts are expected to be made because many are simply dropping out of the competition. The final team should be selected soon.

Golf becomes varsity sport

by Dave Van Swol

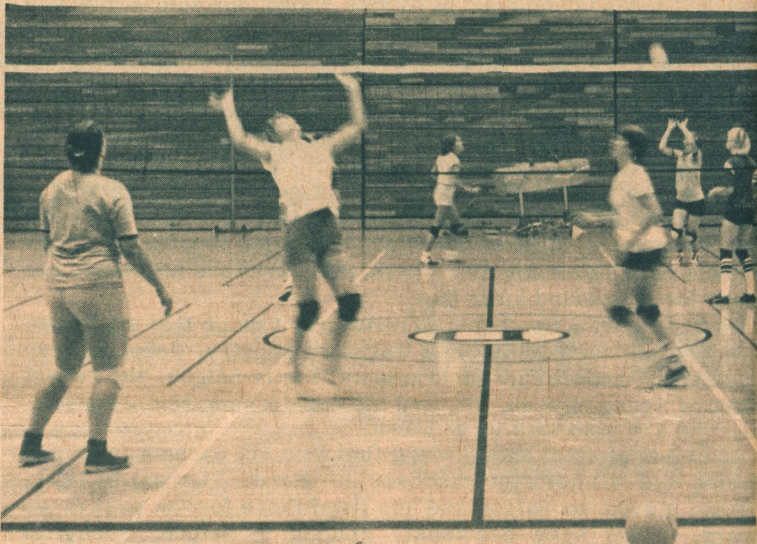
Spirit is running high on Dordt's golf team as the Linksters open their first year as a varsity sport. (In the past, golf has only enjoyed club status.) Selection of the team began during the opening week of school, and continued until last week, when Coach Bos chose the 1975-76 team. Leading the team are seniors Dan Weitzel, Pete Reedyk, and John Huitsing. Other members of the six man squad include Bob Van De Riet, junior, Pete Medendorp, sophomore, and freshmen Dave Geshay. Dordt's opening match was a double dual with Northwestern and Yankton at the Sioux Golf and Country Club in Alton. It wasn't a good afternoon for Dordt as North-

western carded 312, Yankton 324, while Dordt brought up the rear with a 337. Although it was a rough way to open the season, Pete Reedyk's 77 was a good round, and the fine play of Dave Geshay shows some promise for the future.

Season begins for woman's volleyball

by Kathy Knutzen

Practice for the Dordt Women's volleyball team began August 28. The girls practiced two hours every afternoon for a week and the team was picked. Members of the team are: Junior Ruth VanZee, sophomores Terri VanderGriend, and Marlys DeWit, Lee Anne Lange, Roxanne Nobel, and Peggy Nugteren. New to the team are six freshmen. They are Janis Koolhaas, Loretta Schoneveld, Sandy Geurkink, Beatrice Reyneveld, Coby Prins, and Nancy Martin. They will be playing eight matches, with the first one on September 29 at Dordt, starting at 7:00 pm.



Volley ball team training for first game, September 29 here at Dordt.

Bike-a-thon rolling for CRWRC

by Evelyn Luymes

How would you like to eat rice for breakfast, rice for dinner, and rice for supper 365 days a year? This is the diet of many Philippine children, not due to poverty but due to ignorance. The CRWRC is trying to change this situation by providing nutritious

warm dinners for thousands of children while their mothers are taught how to grow and cook nutritious food. The Bike-a-thon committee, with Daryl Vander Kooi as their faculty advisor, chose to support this fight against malnutrition. Trying to combine a meaningful purpose with having fun a group of Dordt students decided to organize a Bike-a-thon. "We thought the CRWRC would be a good purpose as a kind of follow up of last year's

Hungry Bazaar," said committee chairman, Sandy Vanden Berg. The Bike-a-thon covers a distance of about 30 miles, Oak Grove being the mid-way point. At Oak Grove, sack lunches will be provided. Free drinks will be provided at the check points along the way. Registration begins Saturday morning, September 20 between eight and nine o'clock. Extra sponsor sheets can be picked up at the SUB.

When asked what the people who don't have bikes will do, Sandy said, "Bonnie Abma is trying to arrange that." Everyone willing to lend a bike, as well as needing a bike, is encouraged to contact Bonnie. Sandy said she was, "really excited about the whole project!" Encouraging people to ride, "even for just a little money or for fun," Sandy hopes that those who can't ride will at least sponsor someone by the mile or donation.



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